



**"JUST BRING YOUR POLE"...** Last May crowds gathered at Mindowaskin Park in Westfield for the annual Fishing Derby, sponsored by the Westfield Policemen's Benevolent Association, Local No. 90. This year's Derby will be held on Sunday May 5. Children 14 and under can register at the Westfield Police Department.

## Gardner Offers Proposal For Educational Excellence

By any measure, Westfield has a very good educational system. But a school system cannot rest on its laurels. We must educate our children for the future and that means always being open to change.

I believe that we need to focus on ensuring that our courses are challenging, up-to-date and well-articulated; maintaining educationally sound class sizes; providing on-going professional development programs for teachers; assuring that the educational programs address the needs of all students; and doing this all within a fiscally prudent budget.

Since 1996, we will have updated our language arts, math, science, social studies technology, fine arts and foreign language courses at almost all grade levels. As the world changes, we may need to reconsider the electives we offer and the content of our core courses so that our students leave high school with the ability to compete in the world of the

### Dyckman To Address Fanwood GOP Club

Susan Dyckman, a Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education Candidate, will be a guest speaker at the La Grand Recreation Building in Fanwood.

Mayor Jung and Council President Whitaker will also be present. They will discuss current issues relating to Fanwood.

Candidate's night at the Republican Club will be on May 6. Invited to attend will be the newly elected Freeholder Candidates from Union County: Anira Clericuzio, Esq. From Cranford, Councilman Joel Whittaker from Fanwood and Councilwoman Elyse Bochicchio Medved from Rahway.

The primary election will be on Tuesday, June 4. If anyone has any questions or is interested in joining the Fanwood Republican Club, please contact Sophie Kauchak, corresponding secretary, at (908) 322-3241.

### Westfield PBA No. 90 Sponsors Third Annual Fishing Derby

The Westfield Policemen's Benevolent Association Local No. 90 is sponsoring the third annual Fishing Derby. The event will be held at Mindowaskin Park on Sunday, May 5, from 8 a.m. through 2 p.m.

The Fishing Derby will be a fun afternoon for children. Trout fish and Sunnys will be stocked in the pond. There will be prizes for children who catch golden trout and refreshments for all.

Children 14 and under, can sign up for the event at the Westfield Police Station. Remember, that space is limited. Over 300 children participate annually, and each child needs to bring their own fishing pole.

For more information call the fishing derby coordinator, Lisa Perrotta, at the Westfield Police Department, 908-789-4000.

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## More Letters to the Editor

### Victoria's Secret Should Be Censored Says Former Westfield Resident

I graduated from WHS in 1960 but have not been a full time resident since then. However, I do come back for all my class reunions and have very fond and loyal feelings about the quality of my growing up years and my education.

My mother brought her subscription to *The Westfield Leader* with her when she came to live with my family and me. So, I read it. Since her death on September 12 I have continued to get the paper.

I receive my copy of the paper about one week after it comes out. I read with great interest the letters about Victoria's Secret and how it presents its products in the windows. I debated about writing this letter until reading the letter by the man (negative comments deleted) from Garwood.

When I read the original letter by the woman expressing her concerns about

the display of lingerie in the store window, I was so delighted she expressed her concerns. I find the Victoria's Secret TV advertisements lewd and feel the same about their store windows.

I live in a large city and have little opportunity to effect change in stores run by large corporations. The only thing I do is not shop at the store and try to avoid watching the TV commercials. One of the great advantages of living in a town like Westfield is that citizens have the opportunity to control the kind of stores that come to town and how they present their wares to the Westfield shopping public. I hope concern for what children are exposed to will continue.

Carla Schissel  
RN PhD.  
Atlanta, GA

### Westfield Residents Applaud BOE Budget, Believe Taxpayers Funds Are Spent Wisely

We applaud the Board of Education for making the difficult decisions about the school budget for next year. Although we are very upset that eighth grade sports are not included in the budget, we recognize that the community will need to make sacrifices both in terms of higher taxes and in terms of a few less summer and extra-curricular options for our students. But, on the whole, we believe that the board cut judiciously and is spending taxpayer funds wisely.

Although the tax increase seems high, we understand that the actual increase in the budget is only 5.7 percent. This seems fairly reasonable to us when we consider that the school enrollment con-

tinues to increase each year. We also understand that the fact that the state is funding less of the school budget next year means that we, the local taxpayers, must fund more of the budget. The alternative is to have cuts that go far deeper into the core educational program than eighth grade sports.

We are willing to pay an additional \$41 a month, as is required under the proposed school budget, to continue the kind of educational system that attracted us to Westfield in the first place. We urge others to consider how important education is and to support the school budget on April 16.

David and Debra Judd  
Westfield

A Paid Bulletin Board Service

### Rich DeMott Becomes Alcohol And Drug Counselor in Westfield

Westfield now has a Licensed Professional Counselor and Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor in town.

Rich DeMott, MA, LPC, CADC is a private psychotherapist who has worked in the fields of special education, mental health and alcohol / drug treatment for the last twenty years. He has participated on television panels with high profile celebrities and athletes discussing treatment and recovery. Mr. DeMott has also written a book nearing publication for the general population with themes that touch upon sobriety, co-dependency and spirituality.

He has started a second

manuscript geared for treatment professionals entitled, "Contemporary Recovery Themes For Chemical Dependency Groups". Mr. DeMott was also recently interviewed by the Sunday Star-Ledger for his expert opinions on how all members of a family affected by alcoholism can make progress and recover.

DeMott works with adults, adolescents and their families during individual, group and couples sessions. Due to the current, hostile managed care environment—he only works with out of network insurance benefits and self-pay (including sliding scale where appropriate).

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**MEETING SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR...** Dr. Sung Chul Yang, South Korean Ambassador to the United States, was the keynote speaker at the international symposium hosted by the Gateway Institute for Regional Development at Kean University. The symposium emphasized economic ties between the two nations and the diversity of each country. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. and Mrs. Walter E. Boright of Westfield, Korean Ambassador to the United States, Dr. Sung Chul Yang; Professor of Economics and Finance, Dr. Yoon-Suk Kim of Kean University and former Scotch Plains Mayor, Mauro Checchio.

## Nature Center Seeks Help To Plant Wildflower Seeds

FANWOOD — Assistance is needed to help plant wildflower seed in the PSE&G Co. overhead power line property, adjacent to the Fanwood Nature Center on Saturday, April 20, at 10 a.m. The work should take about two hours. If there is a steady rain on that day, the planting will be rescheduled for Sunday, April 21, at 1:30 p.m.

To get to the site go one block south on Terrill Road from LaGrande Avenue. Turn left onto Cray Terrace and go to the overhead power lines. Park in the street and walk up the gravel drive. Please bring metal "T"-shaped rakes and dress appropriately. Expect muddy ground.

Last fall the area was sprayed with

an herbicide to kill the weeds. Approximately one ton of lime and a half-ton of fertilizer were spread on the site thanks to Vincent DiGiacomo of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education. This was arranged through shared services. The area was tilled by Chet Lindsey. Blooming can be expected in June. Different flowers will appear into the fall. Please remember that the flowers belong to all of us and should not be picked.

Even if you can't help with the planting, please stop by and say hello.

Any group that would like to help place wood chips on the trails (on any dates) can call Dean Talcott at (908) 322-6577 and make arrangements.

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